AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 9 is a diagram showing a relationship between the weighting correction characteristic of the correction circuit 17 and (ΔVhigh - ΔVlow) - (the level of the crossing point - DC level = ΔV) characteristic of the input wave actually output from the preamplifier 2, which is associated with the characteristics of the light receiving element 1 of the characteristics of the preamplifier 2. In the figure, reference numeral 201 shows a plot representing an example of the characteristic of the input wave actually output from the preamplifier 2, and reference numeral ~~202~~ 211 shows a plot representing the weighting correction characteristic of the correction circuit 17 which is the same as that shown in Fig. 8. As shown in Fig. 9, although (ΔVhigh - ΔVlow) is not proportional with (the level of the crossing point - DC level = ΔV) in the characteristic of the input wave actually output from the preamplifier 2, the difference between the level of the crossing point and the threshold voltage can be reduced by determining ΔV according to the weighting correction characteristic plot 211 that ~~approximate~~ approximates the characteristic of the input wave actually output from the preamplifier 2, and therefore the jitter characteristic of the data regenerated when the output signal from the preamplifier 2 has a distortion can be improved.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 10 is a diagram showing another example of the relationship between the weighting correction characteristic of the correction circuit 17 and (ΔVhigh - ΔVlow) - (the level of the crossing point - DC level = ΔV) characteristic of the input wave actually output from the preamplifier 2, which is associated with the characteristics of the light receiving element 1 of the characteristics of the preamplifier 2. In the figure, reference numeral 201 202 shows a plot representing an example of the characteristic of the input wave actually output from the preamplifier 2, reference numeral 211 shows a plot representing the weighting correction characteristic of the correction circuit 17 which is the same as that shown in Fig. 8, and reference numeral 212 shows a plot representing another weighting correction characteristic of the correction circuit 17.